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BOROUGH OF YEOVIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1953

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BOROUGH OF YEOVIL

Mayor :

COUNCILLOR W. AUSTIN

Deputy Mayor :

ALDERMAN S. VINCENT

HEALTH AND SANITARY COMMITTEE

Alderman W. J. C. PITTARD (Chairman)

Alderman B. DENING (Vice-Chairman)

The Mayor

Councillor C. B. GOSLING

Councillor S. J. RICKETTS

Councillor H. D. BROOKS

Councillor A. C. SINGLETON

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

P. POWER FOX, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer :

M. I. ROSS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Dental Surgeon QUENTIN DAVIES, L.D.S., R.C.S.
(ENGLAND)

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Sewage
and Destructor Works Manager ... C. G. H. RICE, M.S.I.A., A.Inst.S.A.,
Cert. R.S.I., S.I.J.B., Cert. R.S.I.,
Meat and Food.

Sanitary Inspectors G. E. ROADHOUSE, M.S.I.A.,
A.R.SAN.I., Cert. R.S.I., S.I.J.B.,
Cert. R.S.I., Meat and other Foods.
L. MORGAN, M.I.S.A., A.R.SAN.I.,
Cert. R.S.I., S.I.J.B., Cert. R.S.I.,
Meat and other Foods.

Student Sanitary Inspector ... W. J. PEARCE.

TO THE
MAYOR, ALDERMEN and COUNCILLORS
OF THE
YEOVIL BOROUGH COUNCIL

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Borough and the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1953.

GENERAL REMARKS

The health of the community has been satisfactory. An outbreak of measles occurred, 417 cases being notified, but in general the disease was of a mild nature and no deaths were reported:

The Corrected Death Rate was 10.85 as compared with 10.59 for the previous year.

The Corrected Birth Rate was 15.04 as compared with 15.23 for the previous year.

The Infantile Mortality Rate was 22.5 as compared with 30 for the year 1952 and with 26.5 for England and Wales for 1953.

The Respiratory Tuberculosis Death Rate was 0.17 which figure is considerably less than that for the previous year, viz. 0.38.

HOUSING

The number of applicants for Council Houses shows no sign of diminution. The number of applicants on the Waiting List at the 31st December, 1953, being 1,245 as compared with 1,201 in December, 1952. The number of council houses completed during the year was 138 as compared with 99 for the year 1952.

APPLICANTS ON THE WAITING LIST AT 31st DECEMBER, 1953:—

	1953	1952
Sub-tenants with children	357	391
Sub-tenants with no children	308	275
Householders with children	444	422
Householders with no children	126	102
Tenants of huts with children	8	10
Tenants of huts with no children	2	1
Grand Total	1,245	1,201

I wish to take this opportunity of again recording my appreciation of the help and co-operation received from the Council, from the Health and Sanitary Committee and from the members of the staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

P. POWER FOX.

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Borough	...	...	...	...	...	2,256 acres
Rateable Value (31st March, 1954)	...	...	...	...	...	£187,797
Estimated Produce of 1d. rate in the year ending	...	...	...	...	...	
31st March, 1954	...	...	...	...	...	£728
Number of inhabited houses (31st March, 1954)	...	...	...	...	...	7,165
Population	...	...	...	...	...	23,770

VITAL STATISTICS

REGISTERED LIVE BIRTHS

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	345	175	170
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	11	4	7
					356	179	177

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	14·9
Corrected Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	...	15·04

STILL BIRTHS

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	6	3	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
					7	3	4
Grand Total							

Still birth rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	19·2
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

DEATHS

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
					281	130	151
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	11·8
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	10·85

MATERNAL DEATHS

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

All Infants	...	...	8	Rate per 1,000 live births	22.5
Legitimate Infants	...	...	8	Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	23.2
Illegitimate Infants	...	—		Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

			1952	1953
Deaths from Heart Diseases (all ages)	...		104	98
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	48	51
Deaths from Phthisis (all ages)	...	...	9	4

BIRTHS

After allowing for inward and outward transfers the Registrar General's figures for the Borough was 356 live births ; 179 were male and 177 were female.

Of these, 11 were illegitimate (4 males and 7 females).

The table below shows the birthrate for the previous 10 years.

BIRTH RATES

1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
21.7	19.4	19.5	20.3	16.4	15.8	14.6	15.3	15.08	14.9

DEATHS

After correction for transferable deaths the net total assigned to the Borough was 281, viz. : 130 males and 151 females. The crude death rate was 11.8 as compared with 11.49 for the previous year. The corrected death rate was 10.85 as compared with 10.57 for the previous year.

There were 177 deaths occurring in persons over 70 years of age. The primary cause of death was heart disease (98) with cancer second (51).

The following table shows the causes of death and the sex distribution.

CAUSES OF DEATH	1953	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	3	1
Tuberculosis, Other	1	—
Syphilitic disease	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	2	—
Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	2	4
Malignant neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...	6	3
Malignant neoplasm, Breast	—	6
Malignant neoplasm, Uterus	—	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	13	14
Diabetes	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	17	32
Coronary Disease, Angina	19	7
Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	1
Other Heart Disease	27	35
Other Circulatory Disease	4	5
Influenza	1	3
Pneumonia	3	7
Bronchitis	8	6
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	2	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	4
Congenital Malformations	—	1
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases ...	13	11
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	—
All Other Accidents	—	3
Suicide	1	1
All Causes	130	151

DEATH RATE

1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
11·8	11·05	10·19	12·08	10·9	10·8	10·59	14·23	10·57	10·85

CANCER

The number of deaths due to cancer (all forms) was 51. The table as set out below shows the incidence of cancer for previous years.

1940	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
36	27	35	41	37	50	38	46	48	51

CANCER DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION

Year	1940	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Yeovil Borough ...	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.8	1.5	2.1	1.58	2.06	2.02	2.14
County of Somerset	1.6	1.9	1.9	2.07	1.9	1.9	1.89	2.00	1.98	
England and Wales	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.94	1.96	1.99	1.99

INFANT MORTALITY

The number of children dying within the first twelve months of life was 8 as compared with 11 for the previous year. The rate per 1,000 of live births was 22.5 as compared with England and Wales of 26.5.

The table as set out below shows the number of deaths, and Infantile Mortality Rate as compared with previous years.

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Number of Deaths	17	14	14	7	9	11	8
Rate per 1,000 live births Yeovil	37.1	36.4	37.4	20	25	30	22.5
Rate per 1,000 live births in England and Wales	41	34	32	29.8	29.6	27.6	26.5

CAUSES OF DEATH

Prematurity	...	...	...	2
Spina Bifida	...	...	...	1
Atelactasis	...	...	...	4
Pneumonia	...	...	...	1
				—
			Total	8
				—

AGE OF DEATH

Under 24 hours 4	Under 1 week 7	1 month or under 7	Under 1 year 8
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MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no maternal deaths during the year. From 1946 onwards there has been no maternal death in the Borough which reflects very creditably on the obstetric services.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table sets out the details of infectious diseases notified during the year and also the figures for the previous year.

DISEASE	<i>Cases Notified</i>	
	1952	1953
Poliomyelitis	7	5
Scarlet Fever	14	5
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—
Measles	3	417
Pneumonia	12	14
Erysipelas	—	—
Whooping Cough	73	69
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	2
Anthrax	1	—
Typhoid	—	—
Dysentery	4	—

DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

The total number of children immunised against Diphtheria, or Diphtheria and Whooping Cough, during the year was 331, of whom 259 were immunised before the age of two years. The number of children under the age of 5 years immunised against Diphtheria at the 31st December, 1953, was 1,037. The number of school children, i.e. between the ages of 5 and 14 years was 2,724, making a grand total of 3,761. The above figures are good but are not completely satisfactory.

VACCINATION

The number of infants, i.e. under the age of 1 year vaccinated was 175, as compared with 169 for the year 1952. The number of children between the ages of 1 year and 14 years vaccinated was 34, making a grand total of 209, as compared with 195 for the previous year. The total number of primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations carried out was 217 and 47 respectively.

ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS

During the year 5 cases of Anterior Poliomyelitis were notified as compared with 7 for the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year was 18, non-pulmonary, 7. There were 4 deaths recorded as due to pulmonary tuberculosis, 1 for non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947
No. of cases notified Pulmonary	18	24	31	23	22	26	36
" " " " Non-Pulmonary	7	3	3	8	2	5	8
No. of deaths Pulmonary	4	9	12	8	5	2	7
" " " " Non-Pulmonary	1	2	—	—	2	—	—
Death rate of Respiratory Tuberculosis per 1,000 population	0.17	.38	0.51	0.33	0.21	0.1	0.31

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

Annual visits of the above service have now become an established feature and it is difficult to over assess the importance of this service. During the year 4,460 persons were examined which is the highest figure recorded since 1948 when the service was made available to the general public. A total of 12 active cases (8 male, 4 female) were discovered, of whom 5 were admitted to a Sanatorium, 4 referred to the Chest Clinic for observation and 3 referred to their private doctor. In addition 22 persons were found to have inactive tuberculosis and 39 persons to have other abnormalities of the chest. The following table shows the figures since 1948.

<i>No. of people examined</i>		<i>No of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis Diagnosed</i>	
		<i>Active</i>	<i>Inactive</i>
1948	4,260	9	32
1949	2,298	13	31
1950	2,316	4	41
1951	3,015	8	34
1952	4,191	9	37
1953	4,460	12	22

As in previous years, my thanks are due to the Organising Secretary, Mr. Coffey, for the co-operation I have received from him in arranging these visits.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

BIRTHS

<i>Live Births</i>	Legitimate	345	Illegitimate	11	Total	356
<i>Still Births</i>	Legitimate	6	Illegitimate	1	Total	7

INFANT DEATHS

Number	Legitimate	8	Illegitimate	—	Total	8
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ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

The number of expectant mothers seen at the Ante-Natal Clinics was 59, the total number of attendances being 114. In addition, 5 mothers attended for Post-Natal examinations.

DENTAL TREATMENT

Number of Ante-natal cases	...	69
Number of Post-natal cases	...	34
Number of children under 5 years		369

INFANT WELFARE

Total number of children attending		965
Total number of children attending for first time		397
Total number of attendances made		3,232

HOME VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS

Infants :—

Primary visits		368
Subsequent visits		3,513
Visits to children 1 to 5 years	...	4,452

BLOOD EXAMINATION CLINIC

The number of expectant mothers attending the clinic continues to be satisfactory—a total of 428 attending during the year. A considerable proportion of patients attending are resident outside the Borough. Records are now held of 2,228 patients.

HOME HELP SERVICE

This service continues to render excellent assistance and the following table indicates the scope of its activities.

Following alterations to the Preston Road Clinic the office accommodation for the local organising staff has been moved to buildings adjacent to the Clinic, and this has made for still closer liaison between the Home Help Service and the Public Health Staff, especially Health Visitors. The new location of the offices are also much more convenient for the public.

NUMBER OF CASES WHO RECEIVED HELP IN 1953 :—

<i>Type of Case</i>	<i>Yeovil Borough</i>
Maternity	27
Old Age and Infirmary	108
Tuberculosis	4
Chronic Illness	30
Emergency Illness	36
Families of motherless children	4
Totals	209

A number of the old age and chronic cases have received help for two or three years.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

No action was taken under Section 47 of the above Act.

P. POWER FOX,
Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT

OF THE

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SEWAGE AND AND DESTRUCTOR WORKS MANAGER

for the Year 1953

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND SANITARY
COMMITTEE :

Gentlemen,

I present herewith my Report for 1953, and in so doing would record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Sanitary Committee for their continued support, also to the members of the staff of my Department for their valued assistance during the year.

NUISANCES

COMPLAINTS

Included below is a list of the various complaints received by the Department during the year.

General housing defects	46
Defective drainage, cesspools, etc.	45
Smoke, dust and effluvia	4
Rats and mice	54
Verminous premises	4
Kitchen waste bins	5
Overcrowding	1
Keeping of animals and poultry	5
Foodstuffs and food premises ...	9
Caravans	1
Dumping of refuse	3
Nuisances from water courses ...	4
Unwholesome premises	2
Factories and workshops	2
Total	185

HOUSING

OVERCROWDING

No definite figure of the number of cases of overcrowding is known but it is estimated to be in the region of 50, of which about 30 are applicants for Council Houses. Many houses although not overcrowded continue to be occupied by more than one family.

FITNESS OF HOUSES

It is intended to gradually complete a survey of all the older housing accommodation in the Borough in order to get a more detailed picture of present conditions and state of repair of these properties.

FOOD INSPECTION

FOOD PREMISES

Routine inspection of these premises has been carried out and improvements asked for where necessary.

It has, however, been somewhat disquieting to note from time to time that in some premises employees do not appear always to realise the high standard of hygiene required of those engaged in the handling and preparation of food.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The Ministry of Food continued to occupy and use the premises in Queen Street. Total killings have slightly decreased during the 12 months.

Comparative figures for all animals slaughtered for 1945, 1950, 1951, 1952 and 1953 are included below. The figures are, of course, for the meat supplies within the Borough and also the Rural areas supplied from the Yeovil centre.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Bullocks</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Total</i>
1945	2761	8167	604	2373	13905
1950	2152	7587	7203	1092	18034
1951	2491	5654	9513	62	17720
1952	2238	7148	11971	61	21418
1953	2272	7388	11456	81	21197

The following statement contains particulars of the number of carcasses killed and inspected during the year together with the amounts of meat condemned.

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed ...	688	1584	81	7388	11456
Number inspected	688	1584	81	7388	11456
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	2	7	4	35	50
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	172	321	—	322	2007
% of number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	25.29%	20.7%	4.93%	4.83%	17.95%
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	3	11	—	—	74
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	112	428	—	—	510
% of number in- spected affected with Tuberculosis ...	16.71%	27.71%	—	—	5.09%

MEAT INSPECTION

Although there were 147 less cattle (other than cows) killed during the year, 16.55% more were found to be affected in some degree by disease other than T.B., whilst the percentage affected by T.B. in any degree increased by 4.86%.

It is interesting to note that whilst the number of cows killed increased by 181, there was a decrease of 16·35% in the number affected by disease in some form as compared with the figure for 1952. The number affected with tuberculosis in any degree only increased by ·08% on the previous year's figure.

MEAT OTHER THAN CARCASSES CONDEMNED

		<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	
Beef	...		11	—	26	} Bruising, Fractures, Abscesses, T.B., Injuries and Deformities.
Mutton	...			2	2½	
Pork	...		5	1	23	
Veal	...				13	

OFFAL CONDEMNED

				<i>Bullocks</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Calves</i>
Part Livers	...	...	...	454	—	—	—
Livers	...	...	...	366	379	280	—
Lungs	...	...	...	87	103	799	—
Lungs and Hearts	...	...	...	78	43	96	—
Heads and Tongues	...	...	...	108	12	223	—
Plucks	...	...	...	—	67	193	—
Milts	...	...	...	30	—	—	—
Skirts	...	...	...	33	—	—	—
Tripes	...	...	...	41	—	—	—

CANNED FOODS CONDEMNED

Meat	...	...	...	489	tins	} Damaged or unsound and unfit for human consumption
Milk	...	...	...	227	tins	
Fruit and Vegetables	...	...	...	1900	tins	
Fish	...	...	...	165	tins	
Ham	...	...	...	23	tins	
Jam	...	...	...	23	tins	
Soup	...	...	...	3	tins	
Chicken	...	...	...	2	tins	
				2832	tins	

UNSOUND FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED

Sausages—Pork	...	...	51 lbs.	} Damaged or unsound and unfit for human consumption
Sausages—Beef	...	...	24 lbs.	
Loose Ham	...	...	11 lbs.	
Corned Beef Trimmings			1 lb.	
Brawn	...	...	36 lbs.	
Cheese	...	...	2½ lbs.	
		72 x 2oz.	pkts.	
Coconut Ice	...	...	50 lbs.	
Semolina	...	...	17 pkts.	
Dessicated Coconut	...		3 lbs.	
Cake Mixture	...	...	33 pkts.	}
Pickles	...	...	124 lbs.	
Biscuits	...	...	7 tins	

Note : A percentage of the above has been disposed of as pig food.

FISH CONDEMNED

Bream Fillets	...	...	4 stones	} Damaged or unsound and unfit for human consumption
Cod Fillets	...	...	12 stones	
Smoked Fillets	...		1 stone	
Whiting Cutlets	...		1 stone	
Golden Cutlets	...		1 stone	
Crabs	...	1 st. 2 lbs.	12 ozs.	
Whalemeat	...	4 st.	10 lbs.	

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following disinfections were carried out in connection with the above.

Houses disinfected	...	...	...	14
Rooms sprayed or fumigated	...			57
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	19
Cancer	...	...	...	10
Vermin	...	...	...	10
Steam Disinfections	...	...	...	15
Library Books	...	...	...	56
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	9

VERMIN INFESTATION

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

1. SEWERAGE

During the year the sewerage system in the Borough was again systematically tested for rats. The following figures show the work carried out. The infestations found have proved to be of a minor character.

Areas test baited	...	...	...	9
Points baited	...	...	...	147
Negative results (presumed clear)				126
Total number of visits made	...			423

2. PRIVATE PREMISES (including business premises)

Number of premises visited	...			234
Number of premises baited	...			112
Number of premises clear	...			122
Total number of visits	...	...		682
Total number of points baited	...			1215
Number of premises cleared	...			104

3. CORPORATION PREMISES

Inspection and treatment are carried out at the Corporation Sewage and Destructor Works and Refuse Tip regularly. This work is done as a practical measure in order to keep any infestations under control. During the year approximately 265 visits were made and more than 1,750 points baited.

FOOD AND DRUGS—MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

The following are particulars from the Register.

(a) Number of Retailers	...	...	...	...	15
(b) Number of Produce-Retailers included in (a)					3
(c) Number of licensed Pasteurising Plants	...				2

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949

APPLICATIONS GRANTED TO RETAILERS FOR REGISTRATION UNDER THE ABOVE REGULATIONS

(a) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	7
(b) Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	5

GRADED MILK PRODUCERS IN THE DISTRICT

(a) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	3
(b) Accredited	...	...	...	...	1
(c) Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	3

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

APPLICATIONS GRANTED FOR REGISTRATION OF PERSONS AND PREMISES

For Sale and Storage of Ice-cream ...	...	...	7
For Preparation of Preserved Food ...	...	...	2

ICE-CREAM

TOTAL NUMBER OF PREMISES REGISTERED AT END OF YEAR

(a) Manufacture, Sale and Storage ...	...	...	2
(b) Sale and storage only ...	...	...	89

MILK

<i>Samples taken for keeping quality only</i>				
<i>Sanitary Inspector's Department</i>			<i>*Somerset County Council</i>	
	<i>T.T.</i>	<i>Pasteurised</i>	<i>T.T.</i>	<i>Pasteurised</i>
Number taken	7	22	24	136
Number passed	6	22	22	133
Number failed	1	—	2	3

*Results are from reports supplied by the S.C.C.

BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES (raw milk tested for T.B. Bacilli)

These are now taken by the Somerset County Council. No positive results were received during the year.

SAMPLES

ICE-CREAM

<i>Number taken</i>	<i>Placed in Provisional Grades</i>			
	1	2	3	4
80	58	15	4	3

SWIMMING BATHS WATER

<i>Readings taken for residual chlorine</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
12	12	—

Note: Actual routine samples are no longer required by the Public Health Laboratory.

WATER

<i>Source</i>	<i>Bacteriological</i>			<i>Chemical</i>		
	<i>Number taken</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Number taken</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Main Supplies (to cover all sources)	25	25	—	—	—	—
Source Supplies (supplying mains)	10	8	2*	8	8	—

* All water supplies are chlorinated before passing to the mains.

GENERAL SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

The number of inspections made, together with the results, are given in the following tables.

INSPECTIONS

Houses and other premises inspected under Housing and Public Health Acts	...	425
Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	505
Complaints	...	171
Drainage	...	243
Verminous premises	...	4
Moveable dwellings	...	36
Rodents (Visits by S.I.s)	...	4
Smoke Nuisances	...	4
Smoke Observations	...	8
Dust Nuisances	...	8
Interviewing owners, builders, etc.	...	162
Workplaces	...	10
Cinemas	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	126

FOOD PREMISES

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	1075
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	52
Cafés, restaurants, etc.	...	...	...	...	110
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	27
Dairies	...	...	...	...	36
Ice-cream premises	...	...	...	...	65
Re Applications for Registration	...	...	...	...	6
Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	40
Other premises	...	...	...	...	170
Inspections for Sanitary Accommodation, etc.	...	...	...	...	26
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	29

SAMPLES TAKEN

Water—Bacteriological	...	...	...	...	52
Chemical	...	...	...	...	8
Ice-cream	...	...	...	...	80
Milk—Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	22
T.T.	...	...	...	...	7
Earth	...	...	...	...	2

RESULTS OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

GENERAL DEFECTS

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	15
Chimneys rebuilt	...	...	...	...	3
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	13
Guttering repaired	...	...	...	...	25
Downspouts repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	13
Walls redecorated	...	...	...	...	35
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Windows painted	...	...	...	...	8
Sashcords renewed	...	...	...	...	40
Firegrates renewed	...	...	...	...	1
Doors renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Doors painted	...	...	...	...	3
Ceilings renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Ceilings whitened	...	...	...	...	6
Skirting boards repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Floors renewed	...	...	...	...	7
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	10
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	16

Yards repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	57
Rooms disinfested	...	...	...	...	9
Bedding destroyed	...	...	...	...	10
Bedding disinfected	...	...	...	...	15
Dustbin provided	...	...	...	...	1

DRAINAGE

Indoor water supply laid on	...	...	...	...	3
Drainage relaid	...	...	...	...	17
Drainage repaired	...	...	...	...	10
Cesspool systems converted	...	...	...	...	3
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	75
W.Cs. built	...	...	...	...	6
W.Cs. repaired	...	...	...	...	3
New W.C. pans provided	...	...	...	...	17
W.C. cisterns renewed	...	...	...	...	5
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	6
Gulleys provided	...	...	...	...	10
Baths fixed	...	...	...	...	7
Urinals fixed	...	...	...	...	6
Inspection chambers built	...	...	...	...	19
Interceptors fixed	...	...	...	...	6
C.I. covers provided	...	...	...	...	11...
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	3
Wash-hand basin provided	...	...	...	...	1

FOOD PREMISES

Constant hot water supply provided for washing facilities	...	...	...	...	2
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STATUTORY ACTION TAKEN UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

<i>Act and Section</i>	<i>Statutory notice served</i>	<i>Court Action</i>	<i>Abated</i>	<i>In hand</i>
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93	13	1	10	3
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 138 as amended by Section 30, Water Act, 1945	1	—	1	—

HOUSING ACT, 1936

	<i>Number of houses</i>	<i>Number of persons displaced</i>
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal procedure under Section II	Nil	—
(b) Houses demolished as a result of informal notices preliminary to formal procedure under Section II	Nil	—
(c) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section II	4	10½
(d) Parts of buildings closed (Section 12)	2	Nil
(e) Houses made fit:—		
(i) as a result of formal notices under Sections 9 and 12	Nil	—
(ii) as a result of informal notices preliminary to formal procedure under Sections 9 and 12	Nil	—
(iii) as a result of an undertaking under Section 11	Nil	—
HOUSING ACT, 1949		
(f) Closing Orders made under Section 3 (1)	Nil	—
(g) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3 (2)	Nil	—
(h) Demolition Orders quashed under Section 2	Nil	—

FACTORY ACT, 1947

Visits re nuisances, sanitary accommodation, etc.	8
Inspections re Section 34 (Means of Escape in Case of Fire)	10

SEWAGE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL WORKS

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

In November, the Council accepted the tender submitted by Messrs. Hussey, Egan & Pickmere Ltd. of Birmingham, for the construction of the New Sewage Disposal Works at a cost of £306,877, the work to commence in March, 1954.

During the past 12 months some difficulty has been experienced in dealing with certain trade effluents of an oily nature discharged from some of the leather dressing factories in the town. Whilst the co-operation of the industry generally has been very good in helping to overcome the trouble, there is still room for improvement.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Towards the end of the year the destructor was closed down as unfit for further use and disposal is now by controlled tipping. It is worth noting that a large number of local authorities throughout the country are now employing this method in preference to incineration, vide the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Public Cleansing Costing Returns for 1952-1953 in which it is stated that "more authorities are disposing of refuse by controlled tipping. The 1937-38 returns showed that 204 authorities used this method and 86 used mechanical means. The 1952-53 returns show 279 and 61 respectively." Disposal has commenced in the unused contact beds at the old sewage works where bays are filled, levelled, consolidated and covered by means of bulldozer and scraper. It is hoped to make this low lying area a useful site by raising the level to that of the surrounding ground and the adjacent part of Sherborne Road.

SALVAGE

The amounts of salvage materials collected and sold during the year are shown below.

<i>Materials</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>£</i>
Paper	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	51 $\frac{3}{4}$
Kitchen Waste ...	619 $\frac{1}{4}$	2905 $\frac{3}{8}$
Bones	1	6 $\frac{3}{8}$
Rags	$\frac{3}{8}$	7
Ferrous Metals ...	47 $\frac{7}{8}$	74 $\frac{7}{8}$
Non-ferrous Metals	$\frac{1}{8}$	3 $\frac{5}{8}$
Bottles (dozens) ...	56	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Clinkers (loads) ...	57	15 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cooking Pig Food	—	36 $\frac{1}{2}$
TOTALS	678 $\frac{7}{8}$	3103 $\frac{1}{2}$

During the early part of the year there was a fall off in the demand for waste paper as a raw material. The salvage of this material was therefore discontinued.

Kitchen waste collections and returns have been very satisfactory.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. G. H. RICE.

